

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 ACDA-19 IO-13

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USNMR SHAPE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4490

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: NATO COMMON FACILITY IN VIENNA

SUMMARY: IN EFFORT TO GET EARLY DECISION ON NATO COMMON FACILITY, ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL PANSAS HAS PROPOSED THAT THE NAC ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, AUTHORIZE CERTAIN INTERIM STEPS, E.G., THE HIRING OF AN ADMINISTRATOR AND SECURITY CHIEF AND THE NEGOTIATION OF A LEASE FOR A BUILDING IN VIENNA. MISSION SUGGESTS THAT WE AGREE TO SENDING AN ADMINSTRATOR TO VIENNA URGENTLY, BUT THAT WE WITHOLD AGREEMENT TO ANY SPECIFIC BUILDING UNTIL ALLIES GIVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO FACILITIES REQUIRED AND BUDGETARY ASPECTS. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE FOR SEPTEMBER 26 COUNCIL MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. PANSAS HAS CIRCULATED INTERIM RECOMMENDATIONS (TEXT BELOW) TO THE COUNCIL, PENDING CONCLUSION OF A REPORT BY THE MBFR ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP, ON STEPS WHICH HE BELIEVES SHOULD BE TAKEN URGENTLY TO ESTABLISH A COMMON FACILITY IN VIENNA. MISSION BELIEVES THAT IT WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE TO SEND AN ADMINISTRATIVE CONFIDENTIAL

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OFFICER FROM NATO TO VIENNA TO INVESTIGATE ALTERNATIVE SITES FOR THE NATO COMMON FACILITY AND PROVIDE MORE DETAILED AND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION TO THE MBFR ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE IN THE PAST. THIS WILL BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL IF, AS WE SUGGEST

BELOW, ONE OF HIS RESPONSIBILITIES WILL BE TO LOOK FOR A SITE FOR A MORE LIMITED FACILITY.

2. WE SUSPECT THAT THE SYG AND A FEW DELEGATIONS AT THE SEPTEMBER 26 MEETING WILL PRESS FOR AGREEMENT TO THE RENNWEG BUILDING. GIVEN UK AND US CONCERNS OVER THE UNDESIRABLE SECURITY CONDITIONS FOR THAT BUILDING AND THE POSSIBLY EXTENSIVE REDECORATION COSTS, WE PLAN TO RESIST THIS MOVE AND HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT OTHER DELEGATIONS (E.G., FRG, NETHERLANDS, ITALY) WILL SUPPORT US. WE WOULD AGREE THAT BUDGETARY LIMITATIONS AND THE FACT THAT SEVERAL DELEGATIONS WILL NOT REQUIRE SEPARATE OFFICE SPACE ARGUE FOR A NEW LOOK AT THIS PROBLEM, TO SEE IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE A SMALLER FACILITY, PERHAPS LOCATED IN A HOUSE OR IN A SUITE OF ROOMS, AND A REDUCED STAFF. THIS FACILITY WOULD CONTINUE TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE "FOOTHOLD" CONCEPT, MODIFIED TO REFLECT RECENT INDICATIONS THAT SEVERAL DELEGATIONS (INCLUDING US) WOULD BE ABLE TO MANAGE WITHOUT A SEPARATE OFFICE IN THE COMMON FACILITY.

3. WE WOULD ALSO SUGGEST THAT THIS PROBLEM BE RETURNED TO THE MBFR ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY GROUPS WHICH CAN EXAMINE ON A PRIORITY BASIS THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR IN VIENNA. IN THE MEANTIME, IN THOSE GROUPS WE WOULD ARGUE BOTH FOR A MORE LIMITED FACILITY AND A MORE EQUITABLE COST-SHARING FORMULA. WE BELIEVE THAT OUR RELUCTANCE TO ACCEPT A STANDARD CIVIL BUDGET COST-SHARING FORMULA WILL STIMULATE SMALLER DELEGATIONS, WHO HAVE ARGUED UP TO NOW FOR A LARGER BUILDING, TO TRIM THEIR REQUIREMENTS.

4. BEGIN TEXT:
THE OPEN-ENDED AD HOC GROUP SET UP BY THE SENIOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE ON 16TH JULY, 1973, IS STILL CONSIDERING THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY PROBLEMS ARISING OUT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMON FACILITIES IN VIENNA. A FINAL REPORT ON ALL DETAILED ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR SOME TIME, ESPECIALLY IN REGARD TO THE BUDGETARY PROCEDURES.
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HOWEVER, AS THE TALKS ARE DUE TO BEGIN ON 30TH OCTOBER, 1973, THE SELECTION AND LEASING OF A SUITABLE BUILDING AND THE APPOINTMENT OF SOME OF THE STAFF WHO WILL BE NEEDED IN VIENNA TO SUPERVISE THE INSTALLATION.

2. THE SENIOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE, HAVING HEARD AN ORAL REPORT FROM THE CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE AD HOC GROUP, RECOGNIZED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF REQUIRED AUTHORITY TO START IMPLEMENTING THE PROJECT IN ADVANCE OF THE SUBMISSION OF THE GROUP'S FINAL REPORT AND ITS FORMAL APPROVAL. AUTHORITY SHOULD BE GRANTED, IN PARTICULAR:

(A) TO NEGOTIATE FOR SIGNATURE BY THE BELGIAN EMBASSY THE LEASE OF THE BUILDING, TO BE DECIDED UPON BY THE

SENIOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE, AND THEREAFTER TO CONTRACT FOR ANY ALTERATION OR RENOVATION WORK REQUIRED;
(B) TO RECRUIT FOR A LIMITED PERIOD AN ADMINISTRATOR (A.4) TO SUPERVISE THE RENOVATION WORK AND TO CARRY OUT THE INSTALLATION OF THE BUILDING;
(C) TO RECRUIT THE HEAD OF SECURITY (B.5) AND THREE SECURITY GUARDS (C.3) TO ENABLE SECURITY PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN ON A 24 - HOUR BASIS DURING THE RENOVATION AND INSTALLATION PHASE.

3. THESE REPRESENT EXPENDITURES WHICH, IN ANY EVENT, WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE MBFR BUDGET IN DUE COURSE AND WILL BE CONSIDERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORMAL PROCEDURES IN THE APPROPRIATE BUDGETARY BODY.

4. I SHOULD THEREFORE LIKE TO INVITE THE COUNCIL, AS A MATTER OF URGENCY, TO GRANT THE SECRETARY GENERAL THE AUTHORITY SOUGHT UNDER PARAGRAPH 2 ABOVE. END TEXT.
MCAULIFFE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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